

COMPETE PROGRESS REPORT FOR AUGUST 2011

Introduction

The activities undertaken for this reporting period were; joint cereals consolidation and selling, training on Forward Delivery Contract (FDC) pricing & its modalities, KACE Commodity price bulletin covering Trans Mara and a detailed report on the farmers' exposure tour to Kibaigwa Tanzania

Details of accomplishments

Joint Produce Consolidation and Selling

As reported in July 2011, the Cereal Growers of Kongwa (CGOK) was awarded a tender to deliver 65MT to Dodoma. The delivery was done on 23rd August 2011 and payment worth US \$ 22,576.67 is being processed by WFP and expected not later the week starting 4th August, 2011. The stock was contributed by 23 farmers (10 or 43% being women). At the moment effort is put towards the bulking of the 220MT 2nd tender awarded in July 2011 whose deadline is 16th October 2011.

In Trans Mara, the effort to bulk and sell to traders or supply to WFP within the August deadline was slowed down by the heavy down pour experienced for 3 weeks in the region. This stalled the drying, bulking and transportation of grain. By the end of the month 21 Farmer Organizations (FOs) had bulked jointly a total of 453.72 MT of maize, 122.4 MT of beans and 23.1MT of sorghum from the six bulking centers. Out of the 453.72MT of maize bulked, 163.62MT was sold to traders at US \$ 308 per MT while FARM SECURE purchased 128.52 MT at US \$ 333 per MT from Angata and Oldonyo Orok farmers. 200.17MT of maize and 56MT of beans have been inspected and sampled for quality by Intertek and approved for re-bagging. 7.3MT of the beans bulked have been sold to nearby schools at US \$ 710 per MT.

In the coming month more effort and energy will be redirected towards speedy bulking and supplying to WFP to meet the extended period of up to 1 ½ months both in Kongwa and Trans Mara. The farmers have already written letters of extension for the supply of both Maize and beans to WFP.

CGOK was cited as the best performing vendor in the P4P programme in Tanzania and therefore some officials were invited to participate and share experience with other P4P vendors on tender implementation. During that FOs experience sharing meeting CGOK was announced the only eligible vendor for advance payments out of 30 vendors. Talk of trust from WFP. In Trans Mara Lolgorian Grain Growers was also selected as the best vendor among the FOs CGA is working with in Trans Mara.

(Exchange rate of USD 1= KES 90 and TZS 1,500)

Strengthening the capacity of FBO

During the month a joint effort by CGA field staff and WFP team conducted five (5) Grass root level trainings in Trans Mara on the understanding of the Forward Delivery Contract (FDC),

pricing and contractual modalities. The training targeted committee members and few members from each contracted group. A total of 110 FO members attended where 31 or 28% of them were women.

Other activities

Farmers' exposure tour - This year 18 farmers and 4 CGA staff from Trans Mara visited Kongwa in Tanzania. The 22 participants were flagged off from Nairobi CGA offices by the USAID COMPETE and AGRA representatives, CGA chairman and the CGA CEO. While in Tanzania the delegation from Kenya met with 11 other farmers (4 women and 8 men) from Tanzania for an experience sharing. *Attached find the full report about the experiences the farmers shared.*

Participation in Nanenane National Agricultural exhibitions- This is an annual national event in Tanzania in which all agricultural stakeholders meet to demonstrate and showcase what they are doing. The purpose of participation for CGOK and CGA was to meet with the agro input dealers so as to link farmers access quality improved seeds and other inputs. There was a negotiation between Kilosa and Uyoile Agricultural institutes on how to collaborate starting with the soil sampling and testing research in Kongwa district and to recommend the types of hybrid maize seeds best suited in the area. This will also open an opportunity for CGOK to operate agro inputs center in Kongwa.

Market Information Systems (KACE commodities price bulletin) – under the current FDC tender the farmers have an opportunity access the price information for commodities in Trans Mara courtesy of WFP.

Challenges faced during the month and Recommendations

- i. ***Lack of enough storage space*** – with the heavy rains experienced over the month and the moving of a four Wiik hall stores from Trans Mara there is an apparent challenge of a shortage in storage space to bulk both the beans and maize especially when rebagging is taking place at the same time
- ii. ***Delay in supply to WFP*** – this was due to much rains experienced that hindered the drying process. However WFP is willing to add more time for the FOs to supply the grain.

Activities for the next month

- Implementation of the WFP – P4P tenders
- To conduct PHH Grass root level trainings in Trans Mara
- The distribution of the EAC harmonized standards leaflets and the monitoring of the use of the aflatoxin testing kits and collapsible driers by the farmers in the field.